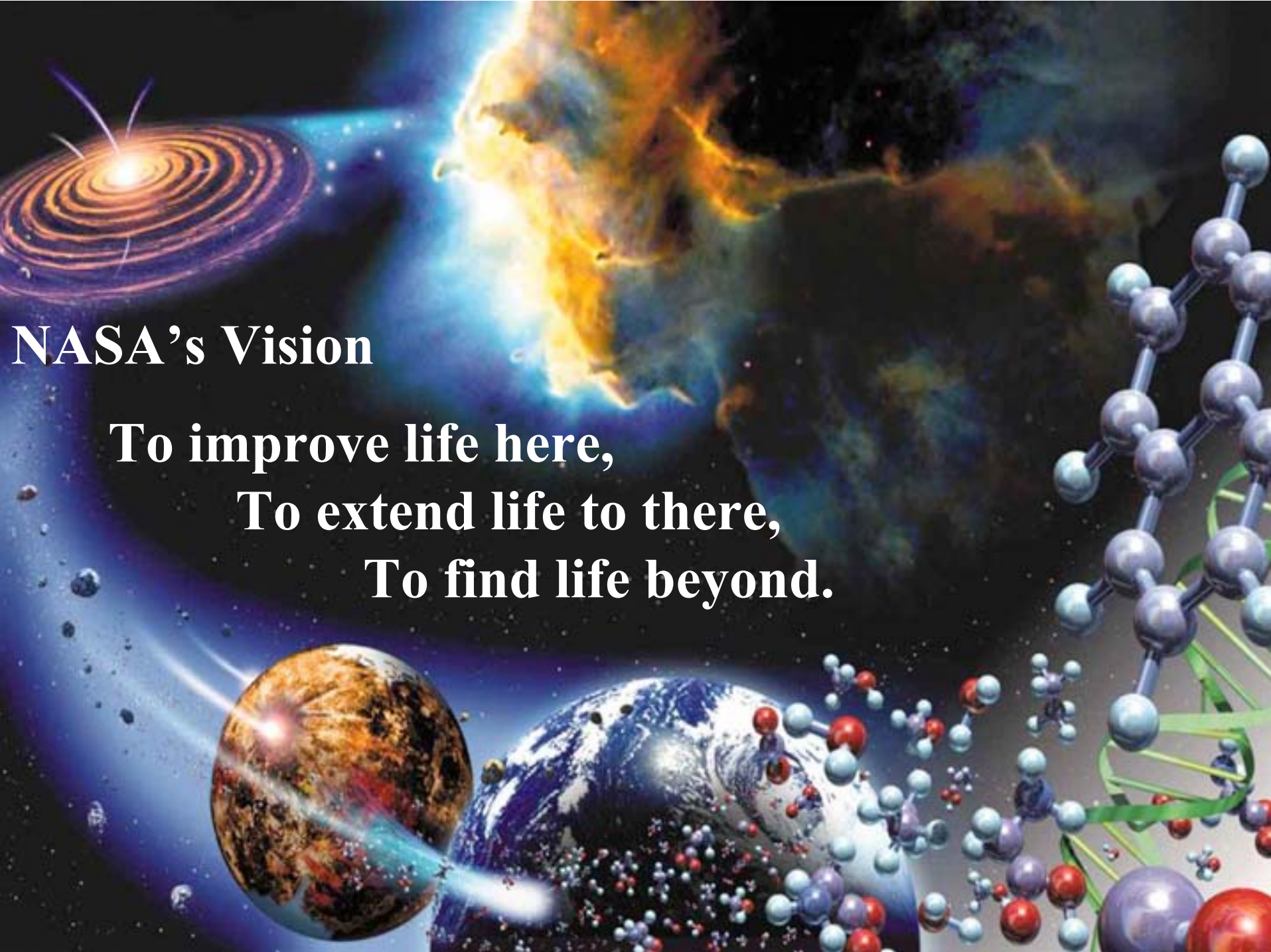


NASA Vision

April 2002



NASA's Vision

**To improve life here,
To extend life to there,
To find life beyond.**



The NASA Mission

To understand and protect our home planet

To explore the Universe and search for life

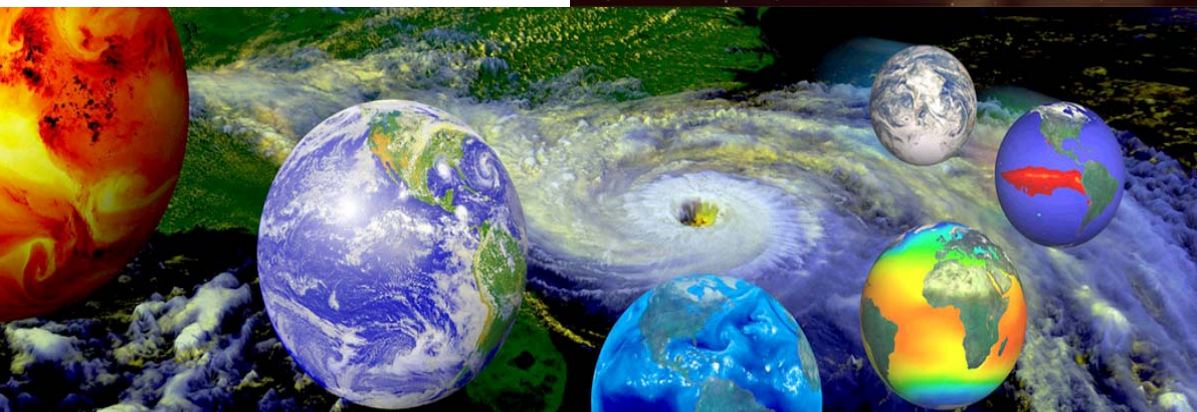
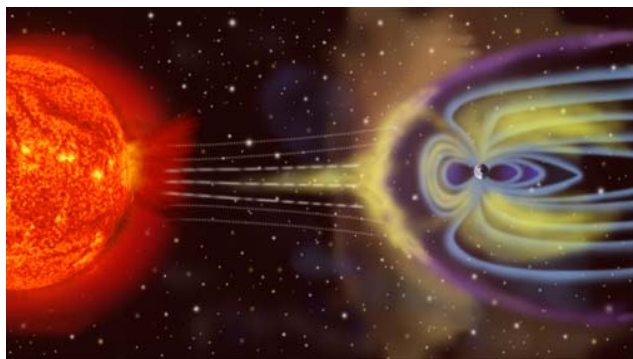
To inspire the next generation of explorers

...as only NASA can.



To Understand and Protect Our Home Planet

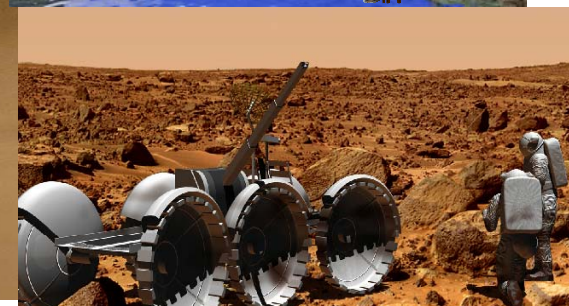
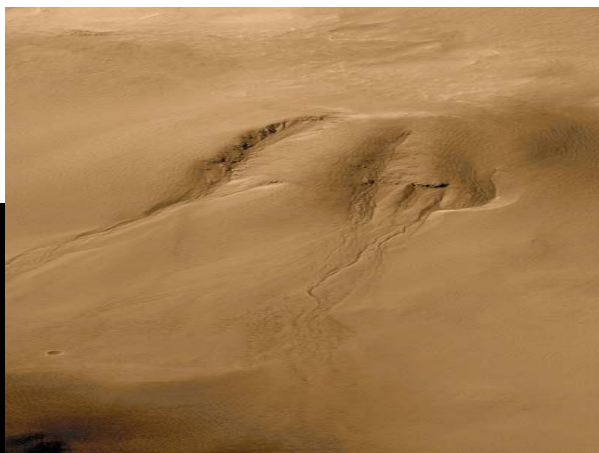
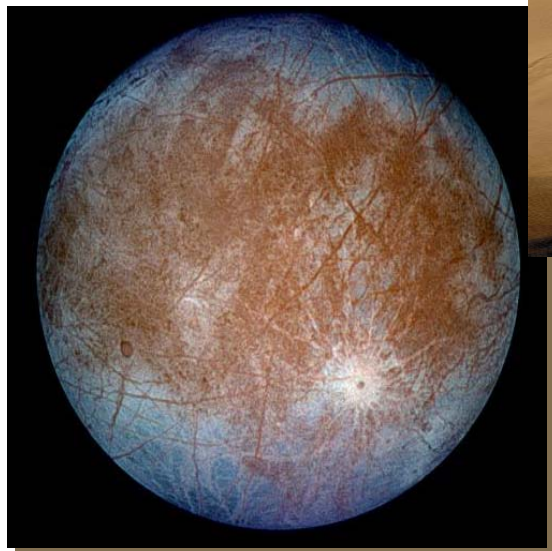
- Understanding the Earth's system and its response to natural and human-induced changes
- Enabling a safe, secure, efficient, and environmentally friendly air transportation system
- Investing in technologies and collaborating with others to improve the quality of life and to create a more secure world





To Explore the Universe and Search for Life

- Exploring the Universe and the life within it... enabled by technology, first with robotic trailblazers, and eventually humans... as driven by these compelling scientific questions:
 - How did we get here?
 - Where are we going?
 - Are we alone?





To Inspire the Next Generation of Explorers

- Motivating students to pursue careers in science, math, and engineering
- Providing educators with unique teaching tools and compelling teaching experiences
- Improving our Nation's scientific literacy
- Engaging the public in shaping and sharing the experience of exploration and discovery





Implications for NASA: What is Different?

To Understand and Protect our Home Planet

- Greater emphasis on providing policy-makers and others with timely information, technology, and useful tools that address priority issues of international importance
- A new spirit of cooperation with the national security community
- Greater emphasis on transferring technologies to others

To Explore the Universe and Search for Life

- Decisions are science-driven; not destination-driven
- Human presence beyond low Earth orbit will be enabled – as a means to scientific exploration, not an end in itself
- Investments are justified by their contribution to the long-range vision

To Inspire the Next Generation of Explorers

- Education is part of our core mission
- Education becomes an integral part of our programs
- More citizens and students will participate in our programs

As Only NASA Can

- We will pursue activities unique to our mission in air and space: if NASA did not do them, they would not get done
- Activities will be integrated across the Agency
- Programmatic and budget decisions will be aligned with our mission statement
- We will carry out our mission as a diverse, unified team
- We will use new technologies to move our physical infrastructure beyond brick and mortar, and to leverage the Nation's industrial and intellectual capital